

(c) if so, the findings of the enquiry conducted and action taken thereon; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI KRISHNAM RAJU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise. However, the points raised in news-item have been enquired into by a Headquarters Fact Finding Committee. Nothing adverse has been noticed by the committee.

Joint production of military hardware by India and Israel

1252. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether during the visit of Defence Secretary to Israel, Israel has expressed its desire to have joint production of wide variety of military hardware, ranging from missiles to armoured vehicles with India and their sale to third world countries;

(b) if so, whether any decision have been taken to have joint ventures in the matter; and

(c) if so, the items to be manufactured jointly by the two countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI KRISHNAM RAJU): (a) to (c) During the visit of Defence Secretary to Israel from 15-17 May, 2001, matters relating to defence cooperation between the two countries, including new areas of cooperation, were discussed. No commerical contract or agreement on joint ventures was signed during the visit.